

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INR-07

INRE-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 L-01 PM-01 SAM-01 PRS-01 NSC-05

/046 W

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O R 181701Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3463

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4071

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: COSTA GOMES AND CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION

REF: LISBON 4048

1. DATT RECEIVED UNANNOUNCED VISIT TODAY FROM MAJOR ANTONIO JOSE VELEZ CALDAS, SENIOR MILITARY AIDE TO COSTA GOMES. CALDAS WAS AWARE OF MY CONVERSATION WITH FERREIRA DA CUNHA (REFTEL), SAID IT HAD BEEN RELAYED TO COSTA GOMES, AND IMPLIED THAT HIS VISIT WAS A PARTIAL RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE I HAD SENT VIA FERREIRA DA CUNHA.

2. CALDAS SAID COSTA GOMES HAD MADE DECISION THAT HE HAD TO MAKE HIS MOVE NOW DESPITE RISKS. HE ADDED THAT COSTA GOMES NOW  
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RECOGNIZED THAT HE MUST SUPPORT MODERATES IN ATTEMPT TO OUST

VASCO GONCALVES IN TOMORROW'S (JULY 19) REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEETING OR HE HIMSELF RISKED FURTHER EROSION OF HIS POWER BASE.

3. CALDAS SAID VITOR ALVES WAS CLOSETED WITH PRESIDENT FOR FOUR HOURS THIS MORNING. I ASSUME ALVES IS PRESSURING PRESIDENT TO ASSIST MODERATES, SINCE ALVES AND MELO ANTUNES HAVE BEEN WORKING HAND IN GLOVE.

4. CALDAS SAID ARNOLD KALININ, SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO PORTUGAL, HAS ASKED FOR AND BEEN GRANTED APPOINTMENT TO SEE PRESIDENT THIS AFTERNOON. CALDAS ASSUMED KALININ WOULD PRESSURE PRESIDENT TO GO ALONG WITH COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZERS ON REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL.

5. CALDAS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR APPROACH I HAD TAKEN RE CALL ON PRESIDENT (REFTEL). HE THOUGHT CALL BY ME ON PRESIDENT AT THIS TIME WOULD EXPOSE PRESIDENT TO CHARGES THAT HE UNDER USG "AND CIA" PRESSURE. CALDAS STRONGLY URGED HOWEVER THAT NATO COUNTRIES BRING DIRECT PRESSURE ON SOVIETS TO GET PCP TO BACK OFF FROM ITS CURRENT POLITICAL OFFENSIVE.

6. COMMENT: ALL SIGNS POINT TO NEW EFFORT BY MODERATES THIS WEEKEND TO OUST VASCO GONCALVES. IN DATT'S JUDGMENT (I DO NOT KNOW CALDAS WELL) CALDAS WOULD NOT MAKE THIS KIND OF VISIT ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE. THUS, IT MAY BE THAT WARNINGS FROM ALL SIDES HAVE FINALLY CONVINCED COSTA GOMES HE MUST ACT. IF SO IT WILL BE A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR HIM.

7. WE ARE BEING URGED BY A NUMBER OF MODERATES, INCLUDING SOARES (SEE LISBON 3936 NOTAL), TO BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON SOVIETS. WHILE THIS IS OBVIOUSLY AN EASY WAY OUT FOR THEM THE CHANGE IN TONE IN IZVESTIYA AND PRAVDA ARTICLES (MOSCOW 10029) MAY OFFER AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US OR OUR NATO ALLIES TO RAISE PORTUGAL WITH SOVIETS. WHILE THEY MOST LIKELY WILL DENY ANY INTERFERENCE, AN EXPRESSION FROM US THAT NEW HARD LINE IN SOVIET PRESS COUPLED WITH GREATLY STEPPED UP PCP ACTIVITY (INCLUDING HEAVY ANTI-U.S. PROPAGANDA) ARE MATTERS OF CONCERN TO US MAY IN ITSELF HAVE BENEFICIAL EFFECT HERE. I NOTE IN THIS CONNECTION THAT LOCAL SOVIET AMBASSADOR HAS CONSISTENTLY GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO TELL ME USSR RECOGNIZED PORTUGAL IS OUR TURF AND DOESN'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING HERE TO DISTURB OVERALL CONFIDENTIAL

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US-USSR RELATIONS. IF DEPARTMENT THINKS SOME APPROACH MIGHT USEFULLY BE MADE BUT WISHES TO KEEP IT RELATIVELY LOW KEY I COULD HAVE CONVERSATION WITH HIM ALONG ABOVE LINES. CARLUCCI

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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